

FROM THE COMMANDER



Marines, sailors, civilian Marines and families of the 12th Marine Corps District,

First and foremost, congratulations on making this the best year the 12th Marine Corps District has ever seen. We led the nation in every metric, a testament to your hard work, dedication and commitment to our recruiting mission. Not only did you ensure you surmounted the challenges placed before you, but you did it with the highest caliber, proven by the fact that 12MCD had the lowest attrition rate from recruit training.

These successes are a direct result of our recruiters' drive and tenacity. Your focus and perseverance have not only enabled us to accomplish our mission, but to do it better than ever before. You have truly led the way. To each Recruiting Station and to the District staff, thank you for all of your support toward achieving our goals.

I'd like to congratulate RS Orange, the RS of the Year for the second year in a row. I'd also like to congratulate the following outstanding Marines: Recruiter of the Year, Staff Sgt. Francisco Soto (LAX); SNCOIC of the Year, Gunnery Sgt. Andrew Francisco (LAX); Prior Service Recruiter of the Year, Staff Sgt. Timothy Taylor; and our Prior Service SNCOIC of the Year, Gunnery Sgt. Jose Alvarez.

We would never be where we are without the support of our team. One of our greatest assets is our supportive family and community network. Families—we are so grateful for your unceasing devotion. This past September, we held our semi-annual District Spouse Orientation Course aboard the Depot. Thirty-two spouses of the District's new recruiters attended the training, which includes a "Recruiting 101" course as well as seminars designed to familiarize the group with the resources still available to them even though they may now be quite far away from major Marine Corps installations. They also witnessed a graduation and colors ceremony and participated in a self-defense class. The next course takes place in March, and we are looking for even more participation from each of our Recruiting Stations. Please contact your Deputy Family Readiness Officer to sign up.

As we proudly look back on what we have accomplished, we continue to look forward to the opportunities and challenges in the year ahead. We've got some major structure changes coming up within the 12th Marine Corps District. In Fiscal Year 17, we will be standing up a brand-new recruiting station in Riverside, Calif., and RS Salt Lake City will be moving from the 12th to the 8th Marine Corps District. Throughout the coming year, we are dedicated to making all necessary preparations to ensure a smooth transition. As always, I know our Marines will help ensure continuity and continued mission success.

Again, congratulations on a tremendous year. We have much to be proud of. I have no doubt we will press on into the coming year with the same tenacity and we will continue to set the example for the rest of the recruiting command. Keep up the good work.

Semper Fidelis,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. C. Hastings".

E. C. Hastings
Colonel, USMC
Commanding Officer